

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 46

By Camper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Major L. DeBerry of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Major L. DeBerry of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, born on November 8, 1922, in Senatobia, Mississippi, Major DeBerry was the seventh of eight children born to the late Reverend Franklin DeBerry and Nettie Peal DeBerry; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian all his life, Mr. DeBerry first worshipped at Macedonia Baptist Church, where his father served as pastor; and

WHEREAS, he attended Macedonia Elementary and Junior High Schools before enlisting in the United States Army, with whom he valiantly served his country for four years in World War II; and

WHEREAS, upon his honorable discharge from the military, he moved to Memphis and joined the Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as member of the Usher Board until he joined the Union Valley Baptist Church, where he was a faithful and active member until his health began to fail; and

WHEREAS, a highly skilled machinist, Mr. DeBerry served with acumen and alacrity with the American Finishing Company for nearly twenty years; and

WHEREAS, he later worked for the General Cable Corporation, where he performed work of the highest quality until his well-earned retirement; and

WHEREAS, though he looked forward to his retirement, he remained active in his community and enjoyed a successful career as a licensed barber for many years; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated son and brother, he was preceded in death by his parents, Reverend Franklin DeBerry and Nettie Peal DeBerry; his brothers, Preston DeBerry, Timothy

DeBerry, Roosevelt DeBerry, Samuel DeBerry, and Milton DeBerry; and his sisters, Bessie Mae Rushing and Dora Perkins; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be forever cherished by his daughters, Major M. DeBerry and Carolyn F. Bell and her husband, Howard; his sons, Reverend Franklin D. DeBerry and his wife, Olivia, and Gary O. DeBerry, Sr. and his wife, Charlotte; his step-sons, Robert Carlock and his wife, Rose, Rannie Davis and his wife, Joy, Kenneth Davis and his wife, Lynn, Michael Davis and his wife, Sharon, and Reginald Davis; and his step-daughters, Mary Small, Irma Wilson, and Barbara A. Davis; and

WHEREAS, he will also be sorely missed by his grandchildren, Pamela Y. Bell, Howard L. Bell IV and his wife, Sherita, Gary O. DeBerry, Jr., Meredith DeBerry, Audrey DeBerry, Reverend Dwight Anthony DeBerry, Patricia Fran'kel Mosley and her husband, Cassius, Myeshia Feild, and Lavita Watkins; his special cousin, Merline Hurd; his great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Major L. DeBerry leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Major L. DeBerry, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. DeBerry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.